AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 to 57, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and add new claims 58 to 90, as shown below. This Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, or claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. to 57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) A method comprising:

associating a data dimension with each of at least first through third key performance indicators;

displaying each data dimension as a line of radiating from a central point in a common plane;

computing, for each key performance indicator, a reference value;

associating, for each data dimension, the reference value of each key performance indicator with a designated point on each data dimension, each designated point being equidistant from the central point;

defining a circle around the central point intersecting each data dimension at the designated point, the circle identifying the reference value of each key performance indicator;

receiving data relating to each of the key performance indicators;

computing, for each key performance indicator, a value based upon the received data;

determining, for each key performance indicator, whether the value exhibits the reference value, a positive exception, or a negative exception;

displaying the data as first through third points on the data dimensions associated with the first through third key performance indicators, respectively, each of the first through third points being disposed on an outside of the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the negative exception, on the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the reference value, or on an inside of the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the positive exception;

defining a region bounded by the central point, the first point and the second point; and

highlighting a portion of the region outside of the circle with a first color, shade or texture, and a portion of the region inside of the circle with a second color, shade or texture.

59. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the lines displayed for each dimension are of substantially equal length.

60. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the reference value represents an average value, an expected value, or a desired value.

61. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the positive exception represents data having greater than the reference value, and wherein the negative exception represents data having less than the reference value.

62. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the positive exception represents data having less than the reference value, and wherein the negative exception represents data having greater than the reference value.

63. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising connecting the first point and the second point.

64. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein the first point and the second point are connected with a line or a curve.

65. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

receiving a user selection indicative of the first performance indicator; and

rendering an expanded view of the first key performance indicator based upon the user selection.

66. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the user selection indicative of the one of the key performance indicators is a mouse-over event or an overt selection activity using a user input device.

67. (New) The method of claim 65, further comprising closing the expanded view.

68. (New) The method of claim 67, wherein closing the expanded view is based upon an expiration of a predetermined length of time, upon a position of a user input device, or a movement of the user input device.

69. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the lines displayed for each data dimension are evenly dispersed among the 360° around the central point.

70. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the lines displayed for each data dimension are not evenly dispersed among the 360° around the central point.

71. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

receiving a user selection indicative of a fourth key performance indicator; and

displaying the data dimension associated with the fourth key performance indicator as a line radiating from the central point.

72. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

redistributing the data dimensions associated with the at least first through fourth key performance indicators among the 360° around the central point.

73. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

receiving a user selection indicative of the first key performance indicator;

erasing the line displayed for the data dimension associated with the first key performance indicator.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, further comprising:

redistributing the data dimensions associated with the at least second through third key performance indicators among the 360° around the central point.

75. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the data is received via the Internet.

76. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the data is continuously received.

77. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the data is received in response to a manual request by a user.

78. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the first color is green, and wherein the second color is red.

79. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

associating, for each key performance indicator, a caption; and

displaying the caption in association with the data dimension for each key performance indicator.

80. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising displaying the computed value in association with the data dimension for the each key performance indicator.

81. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

associating, for each key performance indicator, a unit attribute; and

displaying the unit attribute in association with the data dimension for each key performance indicator.

82. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein displaying the unit attribute in association with the data dimension further comprises displaying the unit attribute left or right of the data dimension, based upon a unit position attribute.

83. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising associating, for each key performance indicator, a minimum value or a maximum value.

84. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprises:

associating, for at least the first key performance indicator, a summary indicator;

displaying the summary indicator at an end of the data dimension associated with the first key performance indicator obverse to the central point; and

highlighting the summary indicator based upon whether the data is determined to exhibit a negative exception, a reference value, or a positive exception.

86. (New) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

defining a second region bounded by the data dimension associated with the first key performance indicator, the circle, and a line connecting the first point with the second point; and

highlighting a portion of the second region inside the circle with a third color, shade or texture.

87. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein defining the circle further comprises connecting the reference point for the data dimension corresponding to the first key performance indicator with the reference point for the data dimension corresponding to the second key performance indicator with a curved line segment.

88. (New) A method comprising:

displaying, for each of a plurality of key performance indicators, linear data dimensions radiating from a central point in a common plane;

defining a circle around the central point intersecting each data dimension at a designated point associated with a reference value of each key performance indicator, the circle connecting adjacent designated points via curved line segments;

displaying the data as points on the data dimensions associated with the key performance indicators, each of the points being disposed on an outside of the circle if the data exhibits a

negative exception, on the circle if the data exhibits a reference value, or on an inside of the circle if the data exhibits a positive exception;

defining a region bounded by the central point, the circle, at least one point, and/or a data dimension; and

highlighting a portion of the region outside of the circle with a first characteristic, and a portion of the region inside of the circle with a second characteristic.

89. (New) A device comprising:

a smart radar chart generator configured to:

associate a data dimension with each of at least first through third key performance indicators,

compute, for each key performance indicator, a reference value,

associate, for each data dimension, the reference value of each key performance indicator with a designated point on each data dimension, each designated point being equidistant from a central point in a common plane;

define a circle around the central point intersecting each data dimension at the designated point, the circle identifying the reference value of each key performance indicator,

receive data relating to each of the key performance indicators,

compute, for each key performance indicator, a value based upon the received data,

determine, for each key performance indicator, whether the value exhibits the reference value, a positive exception, or a negative exception,

define a region bounded by the central point, the first point and the second point; and

a graphical user interface configured to:

display each data dimension as a line of radiating from the central point in a common plane,

display the data as first through third points on the data dimensions associated with the first through third key performance indicators, respectively, each of the first through third points being disposed on an outside of the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the

negative exception, on the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the reference value, or on an inside of the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the positive exception, and

highlight a portion of the region outside of the circle with a first color, shade or texture, and a portion of the region inside of the circle with a second color, shade or texture.

90. (New) A computer program product tangibly embodied in a machine-readable storage medium, where the computer program product comprises instructions that, when read by a machine, operate to cause a data processing apparatus to:

associate a data dimension with each of at least first through third key performance indicators;

display each data dimension as a line of radiating from a central point in a common plane;

compute, for each key performance indicator, a reference value;

associate, for each data dimension, the reference value of each key performance indicator with a designated point on each data dimension, each designated point being equidistant from the central point;

define a circle around the central point intersecting each data dimension at the designated point, the circle identifying the reference value of each key performance indicator;

receive data relating to each of the key performance indicators;

compute, for each key performance indicator, a value based upon the received data;

determine, for each key performance indicator, whether the value exhibits the reference value, a positive exception, or a negative exception;

display the data as first through third points on the data dimensions associated with the first through third key performance indicators, respectively, each of the first through third points being disposed on an outside of the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the negative exception, on the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the reference value, or on an inside of the circle if the data is determined to exhibit the positive exception;

define a region bounded by the central point, the first point and the second point; and

highlight a portion of the region outside of the circle with a first color, shade or texture, and a portion of the region inside of the circle with a second color, shade or texture.